

From Federal News Radio's Jason Miller:

"Congressmen Ed Towns (D-N.Y.) and Darrell Issa (R-Calif.) want agencies to fully transition to the Networx telecommunications contract by May 31, 2011.

"The chairman and ranking member of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee co-authored legislation, the [Complete the Networx Telecommunications Transition Act \(H.R. 6267\)](#), to require all agencies to acquire telecommunications services from the General Services Administration's Networx contract by next May, when the current FTS2001 bridge contracts are set to expire.

"The estimated \$22 million in lost savings for every month we are delayed is unacceptable,' Towns said in a release. 'I insist that the federal government become better stewards of taxpayer dollars and this legislation represents my commitment to doing so.'

"Towns said only about 25 percent of the dollar value of Networx has been transitioned, meaning there are several large agencies that have not yet completed transition.

"So far, almost 67 percent of the transition to Networx is complete, GSA says on its website.

"I intend to reach out to those underperforming agencies to better understand the causes of continued delay and work with them to expedite their transition to Networx,' Towns said. 'In this tough economic climate, there is simply no excuse for the continued foot dragging by some federal agencies on transitioning to Networx.'

"Towns plans to work through the recess and thereafter on the appropriate next steps, legislative or otherwise, to ensure that the Networx transition is a priority and that as much cost savings as possible are realized.

"Towns also held a [hearing](#) in May asking why the transition is taking so long and what can be done to increase its pace. Since that hearing, GSA says transition increased by 14 percent, and could be at 75 percent by the end of this month."

Read more [here](#) .